GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TRIBAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:345
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2005
SCHEMES FOR WELFARE OF TRIBALS IN FOREST AREAS
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai;Reddy Shri Karunakara G.

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of welfare schemes and similar other programmes being implemented for the betterment of tribals living in forests in various States;

(b) the alternative steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Union Government for livelihood of these tribals in view of shrinking of forest areas;

(c) whether the Union Government is aware that some tribes are forced to eat roots of trees and grass etc. for their survival;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the remedial steps taken by the Union Government for their upliftment?

Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH)

(a) to(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 345 by Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai Barad and Shri G. Karunakara Reddy regarding `Schemes for Welfare of Tribals in Forest Areas` to be answered on 19.04.2005

(a) & (b): The Ministry of Tribal Affairs implements several Central Sector/Centrally Sponsored Schemes/Programmes for the socio-economic development of tribal people in all the States/Union Territories, including those living in forests. The schemes of the Ministry relate to income and employment generation, infrastructure development, educational development and improvement in literacy of all the tribal people. Some schemes pertain to ensuring fair prices for minor forest produce besides the promotion of voluntary effort in the area of tribal welfare. The list of Schemes/Programmes of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, being implemented in the country, is annexed.

There is no separate scheme specifically for the tribal people living in forests or those affected due to shrinking of forest areas. This Ministry has, however, decided to take up integrated development of forest villages during the remaining period of the Tenth five Year Plan. The development envisaged would be in terms of providing basic minimum facilities and services, like, safe drinking water, health care, primary education, approach roads and other infrastructure facilities. The Planning Commission has earmarked additional funds to the tune of Rs. 230 crore to this Ministry for this purpose under the Special Central assistance to TSP during 2005-06.

(c): No such incident has been reported to this Ministry.

(d) & (e): Do not arise.

Annexure

Major Schemes/Programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the welfare and development of Scheduled Tribes

1. Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship and Upgradation of Merit of Scheduled Tribe Students

2. Grants-in-Aid under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution.

3. Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Plan (SCA to TSP)

4. Vocational Training Centres in Tribal Areas

5. Educational Complex in Low Literacy Pockets
6. Support to National/State Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporations

7 Development of Primitive Tribal Groups

8. Grant-in-Aid to State Tribal Development Corporations for Minor Forest Produce

9. Grant-in-Aid to NGOs for Scheduled Tribes including Coaching & Allied Schemes and award for exemplary service.
10. Research, Information & Mass Education, Tribal Festivals and Others